

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

14 August 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 10, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Sarasota to northern Collier Counties. In Sarasota County, patchy very low to low impacts are possible today through Wednesday morning and on Thursday, with patchy low to moderate impacts possible on Wednesday afternoon. In Charlotte, Lee and northern Collier Counties, patchy none to very low impacts are possible today through Thursday, with patchy very low to low impacts on Tuesday afternoon. Reports of dead fish and discolored water are possible.

Analysis

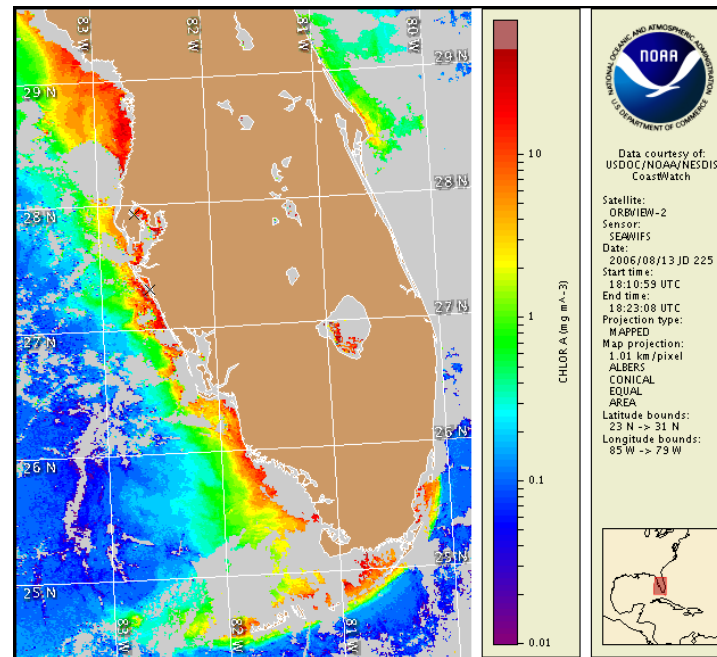
The harmful algal bloom has expanded into northern Sarasota County and persists to northern Collier County. A band of high chlorophyll persists up to 13 miles off the coast, with concentrations generally from 3-6 μg and decreasing concentrations offshore. High patches of chlorophyll (10- 25 μg) are located alongshore of the Sarasota Bay (northern extent 82°46'32"N; 27°27'4"W) and the Venice regions (southern extent obscured). Samples confirm the expanded presence of *K. brevis* to northern Sarasota at low to medium concentrations (FWRI; 8/11). An extensive *Trichodesmium* bloom has been noted between Sarasota and Lee Counties. Fish kills have been reported in the Venice region (FWRI; 8/11). Continued sampling is recommended.

Variable, though primarily offshore winds, today through Thursday will minimize impacts alongshore. Maintenance of the bloom's location at the coast is expected.

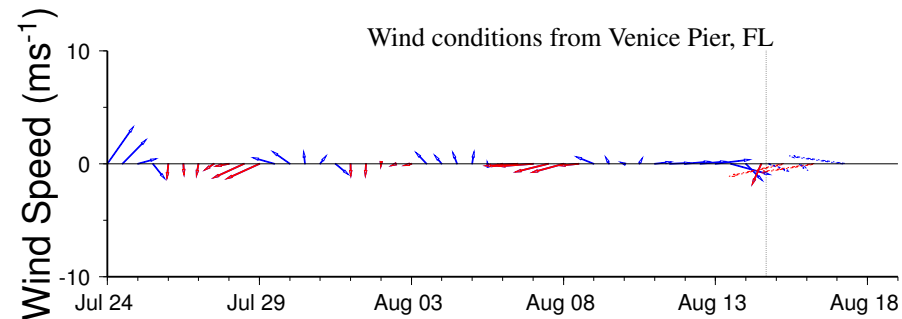
~ Fenstermacher, Fisher

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1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



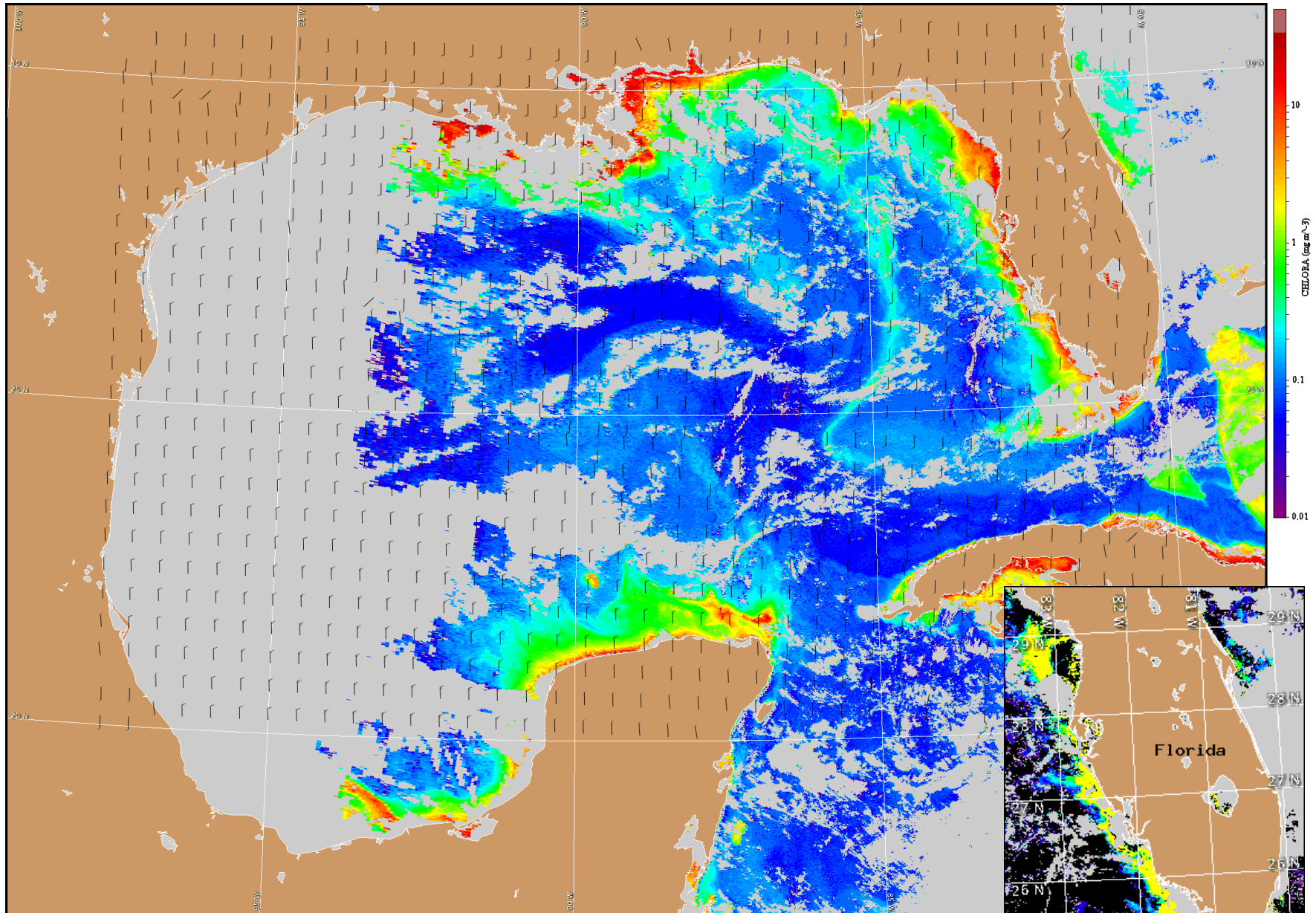
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 4 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida, Sarasota County: Northerlies followed by easterlies tonight through Wednesday morning (10 knots; 5 m/s). Light westerlies on Wednesday afternoon followed by southeasterlies in the evening and Thursday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s).

SW Florida, Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties: Variable northeast to northwest winds today through Tuesday (5-15 knots; 3-8 m/s). Northwesterlies on Tuesday afternoon followed by southeasterlies on Wednesday through Thursday (10-15 knots; 5-8 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 15, 2006 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from August 4 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Naples, FL

